

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GENEVA 02585 051815Z

71-62

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ORM-02 AID-05

SCA-01 /125 W

----- 064372

R 051725Z APR 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9168

INFO USUN NEW YORK 2863

UNCLAS GENEVA 2585

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION-COMMITTEE ON ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

REF: GENEVA 2406

SUMMARY: TWO DAYS AFTER SESSION OPENED COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (CERD) COMMENCED ITS REVIEW OF STATES

MEMBERS REPORTS ON ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATION. SEVERAL DELS WERE
DISGRUNTLED ABOUT GREECE AND AUSTRIA CONTINUING
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. CYPRIOT SITUATION WAS
REPORTED AND COMMITTEE
QUICKLY DECIDED TO DO NOTHING REGARDING THAT CRISIS. IRAQ REPORTED
ON TWO NEW LAWS, ONE WHICH GIVES KURDS EQUALITY WITH ARABS IN
THAT COUNTRY. THE SECOND A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE RETURN OF
IRAQI JEWS. THE LATTER DECREE WAS DECLARED OUTSIDE THE MANDATE
OF CERD BY THE EGYPTIAN DEL. END SUMMARY.

1. AFTER A SLOW START THE PACE OF CERD WAS ACCELERATED AND IN
THREE DAYS OF PROCEEDINGS COVERED REPORTS OF BOLIVIA, GREECE,
FINLAND, BARBADOS, AUSTRIA, JAMAICA, IRAQ AND NIGER.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GENEVA 02585 051815Z

2. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF GREECE AND AUSTRIA, PROCEEDINGS CONSISTED MAINLY OF KNIT PICKING MEMBERS STATES CONSTITUTIONS AND ATTEMPTING TO MAKE EACH ONE CONFORM TO THE ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION.

3. BOTH AUSTRIA AND GREECE WERE CRITIZED FOR CONTINING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. THIS ISSUE WAS ALWAYS RAISED AND DOGGEDLY PURSUED BY EGYPTIANS AND KUWAITI DELS. BOTH AUSTRIAN AND GREEK REPORTERS ACKNOWLEDGED THE KNOWN: THEIR GOVERNMENTS HAD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. BOTH NOTED THEIR GOVERNMENTS HAD SUPPORTED UN RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING APARTHEID. NEITHER INDICATED THAT THE STERN CRITICISM BY CERD DELS WOULD LEAD THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO AN IMMEDIATE OR EVENTUAL BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

4. REMINISCENT OF THE 32ND SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, YUGOSLAVIA LAUNCHED AN ATTACK ON AUSTRIA, ACCUSING THE GOA OF DISCRIMINATING AGAINST THE CROATIANS AND SLOVENES WHO LIVE IN BURGENLAND AND CARINTHIA PROVINCES. AUSTRIAN REPORTER REFUTED ALL CHARGES ON THIS ISSUE WITH DETAILED STATISTICS.

5. CYPRUS. THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS AS DEPICTED BY THE CYPRIOT REPORTER IS DETERIORATING. HE REPORTED THAT TURKISH OCCUPATION FORCES STILL PRACTICE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GREEK CYPRIOTS, IGNORING UN RES. RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMITTING GROSS VIOLATIONS OF THE UN CONVENTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION. SOMEWHAT DRAMATICALLY HE TURNED THE ENTIRE MATTER OVER TO CERD.

6. CERD REPS NOTED THAT THIS WAS THE 4TH PERIODIC REPORT FROM CYPRUS. ALL EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR THE GREEK CYPRIOTS BUT MADE HASTY RETREAT ON THE ISSUE, NOTING IT WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF CERD. BESIDES, THERE WERE NOT NEW ELEMENTS IN SITUATION SINCE COMMITTEE'S 11TH AND 12TH SESSIONS THAT REQUIRED CERD TO TAKE ANY ACTION. THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED AND SUPPORTED FURTHER STUDY OF THE CYPRUS SITUATION AND DECIDED TO CONSIDER THE ITEM DURING THE AUGUST 1976 SESSION. CYPRIOT REPORTER CONCLUDED THE DISCUSSION BY SUGGESTING THERE WOULD BE LITTLE CHANGE BY AUGUST 1976.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GENEVA 02585 051815Z

7. THE IRAQI REPORT WAS INTRODUCED WITH TWO ANNOUNCEMENTS: 1) ON MAR 11, 1976 THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL ISSUED DECISION NO. 248 THEREBY PROMULGATING LAW NO. 3, ON THE AUTONOMY IN THE AREA OF KURDISTAN, WHICH REPRESENTS AN ATTEMPT AT BALANCING THE NATIONAL ASPIRATION OF THE IRAQI KURDS AS A MINORITY WITH THE NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS OF THE ARAB MAJORITY. 2) NOV 26 THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL RESOLVED THE IRAQI

JEWS WHO LEFT IRAQ SINCE 1948 ARE ENTITLED TO RETURN HOME.

8. BOTH LEGISLATIVE ACTS WERE RECEIVED WITH PRAISE BY ALL EXCEPT EGYPTIAN REP WHO MAINTAINED THAT THE LAW REGARDING JEWS WAS NOT WITHIN THE MANDATE OF CERD WHICH HAD AS ITS MAJOR CONCERN RACE NOT RELIGION.

9. THE PHILIPPINE DEL PRAISED THE DECISION ALLOWING JEWS TO RETURN TO IRAQ AND SAID IF THIS ENTITLED THEM TO COLLECT FUNDS FOR CONFISCATED PROPERTY. HE RECEIVED NO RESPONSE TO HIS QUERY. TEXT OF LAW REGARDING IRAQI JEWS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PARA A, ARTICLE 42 9*

THE INTERIM CONSTITUTION, IN KEEPING WITH THE

IRAQI GOVERNMENT'S

BELIEF IN HUMAN RIGHTS, AND BY VIRTUE OF IRAQ'S ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES AND RIGHTS PROVIDED FOR IN THE UN CHARTER AND IN THE DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS,

THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL SITTING ON NOV 26, 1975, RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. IRAQI JEWS WHO LEFT IRAQ SINCE 1948 ARE HEREBY ENTITLED TO RETURN HOME.

2. ALL IRAQI JEWS RETURNING TO IRAQ UNDER THIS RESOLUTION SHALL ENJOY ALL LAWFUL RIGHTS OF IRAQI CITIZENS UNDER LAW.

3. THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT SHALL GUARANTEE TO THE RETURNING JEWS FULL CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS ENJOYED BY IRAQI CITIZENS. THIS WILL INCLUDE EQUALITY AND SECURE LIVING WITHOUT ANY DISCRIMINATION.

4. THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE AND SHALL BE ENFORCED BY THE MINISTERS CONCERNED. UNQUOTE. DALE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 GENEVA 02585 051815Z

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA02585
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760128-0178
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760498/aaaadftp.tel
Line Count: 154
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 GENEVA 2406
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2005 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION-COMMITTEE ON ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
TAGS: SHUM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006